Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 19 lines 9-27 with the following amended paragraph:

Policy 3: Figure 5 demonstrates a policy in which the use of union is required. The policy is simply that each operating system must have a recent version of the software; this translates to the following statement: if the system operating system (0s) is AIX, the software level must be Aix 5.2.G, Aix 5.2.2, or Aix.5.3.B; if the system OS is Linux SuSe and the central processing unit (CPU) type is 0x86, the software level must be Susel.2 or Susel.4; if the system OS is Windows XP, the software level must be Win 1.5. Input set G **502** has the attributes (Sys.OS, Sys.OS.Level, Sys.CPU.Type). This set of data points will be input to each of the three filter operations **504**, **506**, and **508**, each of which check one of the requirements. The outputs from the three filter operations **504**, **506**, and **508** are then joined by a Union operation **510** to create one large set H of exceptions to the rules. Output set H **512** will contain any systems that do not reflect the updated operating system software desired.